





Da King had 5 best traits Filipinos seek in a hero

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

ABS-CBN survey says public agrees with Susan



Saturday, December 18, 2004 • 34 pages

Susan presses attack: Nobody will tell us to shut up

By Luige A. del Puerto

THE OPPOSITION appears to have found a powerful voice in Susan Roces.





JDV loses 'light of my life'



By Carlito Pablo, Cynthia D. Balana and Margaux C. Ortiz

THREE WORDS—and then her cell phone went dead.

"Sa! Help! Help!"

That was the desperate cry that rang through the cell phone of Maria Kristina Cantoria "KC" de Venecia, 14-year-old daughter of Speaker Jose de Venecia, on Thursday night as walls of flame turned 2208 Magnolia St., Dasmariñas Village, Makati City, into an inferno.



KC on life: 'See what is good in everything'

By Carlito Pablo and Nancy C. Carvajal

75.6% of businessmen dissatisfied with gov't

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

GMA approval rating still down at negative 5%

By Julie Lobo-Javellana



Detained general wants to be home for Christmas

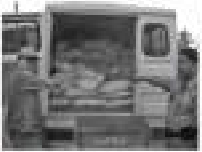
By Christine F. Esguerra

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE

100 sacks=30,000 dynamites

Largest seizure of blasting powder and detonating fuse in country



NEWSBRIEFS

American caught over Davao blast

P5.5M for Children's Hour at The Fort

Reds plan to declare limited ceasefire

EZ2 · SUERTRES · FOUR DIGIT · MEGALOTTO 6/45 · SWEEPSTAKES

Metro

Looters blamed for MRT glitch

Water supply resumes

Caloocan to raise permit fees

Dreams come true for stage-struck street kids



MetroBriefs

Ministop project

Letran alumni meet

Susan Roces' venomous words

On Target

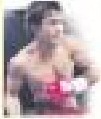




Sandigan files graft raps vs Army colonel

Congress goes on recess for Christmas holidays

WHAT'S INSIDE







SPORTS

Gin Kings crush Barakos, join Phone Pals for lead

By Juan Navarro

ANTIPOLO CITY—Barangay Ginebra grabbed big rebounds and ably turned them into baskets to crush Red Bull 107-89, and join Talk 'N Text at the top of the Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup last night at the Ynares Center here.

Banged against the best rebounding team in the conference, the Gin Kings gave the Barakos a dose of their own medicine with [illegible] board domination to overcome a shaky start.

Ginebra's big men [illegible] the Gin Kings' power around the shaded lane. [illegible] finished with 20 points and nine rebounds, Romel Adducul chipped in 15 points and 11 boards while Andy Seigle scored all but one of his [illegible] points in the second half.

The trio helped Ginebra pound Red Bull in rebounding, 57-43, as even guards Mark Caguioa, Sunday Salvacion and Jayjay Helterbrand did their share off the boards.

Caguioa also torched the Gin offense down the stretch, scoring 18 of his 20 points in the second half, including eight in the final five minutes to fuel a Gin Kings' run on the way to the team's 13th victory in 16 games, tying Talk 'N Text at the top.

"We had a terrible first half so when we saw an opportunity, we hit it and matched the intensity of Red Bull," said Ginebra coach Siot Tanquingcen, whose Gin Kings finished their bid for [illegible]

GMA approval rating still down at negative 5%





Blame fiscal reforms

Blessings to count

Specific tasks

Little public impact

RP can beat corruption in 3 years, says HK expert

4-pronged approach

AFP loyalty

75.6% of businessmen …

'Japayukis' seek 5-year reprieve

By TJ Burgonio

HUNDREDS of "performing artists" and their talent managers yesterday picketed the Department of Foreign Affairs, asking officials to convince Japan to defer the implementation of its new immigration policy on entertainers.

Waving flags and banners, and shouting slogans, the large crowd of mostly female performers pressed officials to seek a five-year moratorium on the new policy which would drastically cut the number of entertainers from 80,000 to 8,000.

Chided by the US state department for failing to check human trafficking, Japan on Dec. 7, adopted a policy setting aside a foreign government's certification of an entertainer's qualification and requiring a two-year training or two-year experience.

"If that is eventually implemented, everybody can't go to Japan," said Bernie Salinel, spokesperson of the Philippine Overseas Entertainment Industry Federation. "That's very strict. If there's a moratorium, then our talents will have time to prepare."

This year, some 80,000 Filipinos had gone to Japan to work as entertainers after acquiring the artist record book (ARB), a government document that certifies one has gone through the necessary training and testing for her dancing or singing skills.

With the new policy, Filipino entertainers will not be allowed to work in Japan if they merely carry the ARB.

According to industry officials, Japan's move could cut overseas remittances, a lifeline for the economy, by P22.4 billion a year, or about 5 percent of the total, affecting more than two million relatives who depend on the hard-earned yen.

Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo said that he would send Undersecretary Jose Brillantes on a diplomatic mission to Japan to seek a moratorium or work out a transition period for the implementation of the policy.

Romulo said Brillantes could work out new incentives to substitute the impact of the new policy on Filipino entertainers.

The problem, according to activists, was that Filipino entertainers didn't seem to do much entertaining when they arrive in Japan's nightclubs and "hostess" bars, at least not in the traditional sense of dancing and singing that Filipinos are world famous for.

The majority ended up catering to the drunken whims of Japanese "salarymen," sitting on laps, lighting cigarettes and pouring beer—and made far more money than they could at home.

But by entering the loosely regulated and crime-connected world of Japanese nightland, activists said, the women became entirely vulnerable to abuse such as being pressured into prostitution or having their wages withheld. *With a report from Reuters*

The WORLD

Editor: [illegible]

ISLAMIST WEBSITE MESSAGE

Bin Laden tells fighters to hit oil supplies

DUBAI—Osama bin Laden called on his fighters Thursday to strike Gulf oil supplies and warned Saudi leaders they risked a popular uprising in an audio message said to be by the Western world's most wanted terror mastermind.



BIN LADEN

Washington said intelligence analysts were not immediately able to verify the authenticity of the recording posted on an Islamist website but the White House was quick to voice defiance.

"Take (Jihad (holy war)) to stop (the Americans) getting hold of (the oil). Concentrate your operations on the oil, in particular in Iraq and the Gulf," said the voice attributed to the al-Qaida leader.

The lengthy message also warned Riyadh's rulers that "the people have woken" and laid the blame for deadly unrest gripping the country on the kingdom's own regime.

"Muslims are determined to recover their rights whatever the price. Either you give them back what they entrusted you with (power), by allowing them to choose their rulers, or you refuse to give power back to them."

The voice accused the regime in the ultra-conservative kingdom, which is battling a wave of Islamist attacks, of forging an alliance with the "infidel" world led by US President George W. Bush.

White House spokesperson Scott McClellan said analysts were still checking on the tape's authenticity but vowed that there would be no letup in the administration's fight against Islamic militancy.

"We are a nation at war on terrorism," McClellan told reporters. "We have made significant progress but the war continues. The terrorists will be defeated, and the civilized world will prevail."

It was the first purported statement from the al-Qaida leader, who has a $25-million US bounty on his head, since a videotape broadcast on Oct. 29 in which he threatened new attacks on the United States.

Since May last year, Saudi Arabia has been battling a wave of deadly attacks in the ultra-conservative kingdom which have been blamed on Bin Laden sympathizers.

In the latest attack claimed by al-Qaida, the US consulate in the commercial capital of Jeddah was stormed by gunmen on Dec. 6, killing five non-American staff members and four of the attackers.

The voice on the tape paid tribute to the attackers.

"The responsibility for the current situation in Saudi Arabia rests with the regime," it said in a message which in particular took to task the kingdom's de facto leader Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz.

"In Saudi Arabia, it is the king and not Allah who commands sovereignty and complete obedience," the voice said. "I advised the government two decades ago to remedy the situation... but it has not changed at all."

The tape emerged as Saudi security services were deployed in force to block protests called for by a dissident Islamist group seeking regime change in the oil-rich kingdom. AFP

UN says bugging device found at its Geneva HQ

GENEVA—The United Nations said on Thursday a secret listening device had been found in a posh meeting room of its European headquarters in Geneva.

The room was used by diplomats from major powers last year during private talks on Iraq following the US invasion and occupation.

Marie Heuze, chief UN spokesperson in Geneva, confirmed the report by French-language Swiss Television which said the sophisticated bugging device had been uncovered in recent months in the Salon Français of the Palais des Nations, formerly the League of Nations.

"I confirm that UN workmen found a listening device. An inquiry was unable to determine when the device was planted or by whom," she said.

Swiss Television said the device was found in wooden panels in the room, but Heuze declined to give any details.

The foreign ministers of the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France met at the United Nations in Geneva in September 2003 for talks on Iraq.

One delegation, probably France's, is believed to have used the Salon Français since last January during talks on global hunger organized by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and French President Jacques Chirac.

"It is not a negotiating room but a prestigious room of historical interest which is put at the disposal of heads of delegations," Heuze said.

The elegant Salon Français, which has art deco furniture from the 1930s, is adjacent the room where the UN-sponsored Conference on Disarmament holds weekly negotiations.

A Geneva-based security expert who saw pictures of the device told the television the system appeared to be of Russian or Eastern European origin. He also indicated it was three or four years old, but such devices were sometimes [illegible], he said. Reuters



Wife asks Pacquiao to train early in US

We haven't stopped training

Big fights for big bucks

Rice, noodles, canned goods

Japan shuts out China, seizes first finals berth; Blu Girls fail



In praise of Noli

SPECTATOR



Gin Kings crush Barakos . . .

Ukrainian leader poisoned by TCDD dioxin, scientist says

EU invites Turkey to join bloc

Bush keeps missile shield plans despite failures

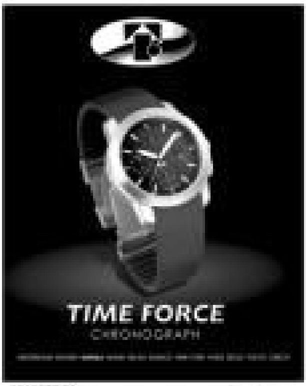


MRS. INDIA

FIRST URBL CHAMPS

M. Lhuillier cagers bag title





PSC transition very critical; Ramirez seen as 'new guy'





RAMIREZ

FEU booters make Super Cup semis

FAR EASTERN University crushed Union FC, 11-0, recently to complete the Division 1 semifinal cast in the NCRFA Globe Handy Phone Super Cup football tournament.

Striker Kirk Magbalon sparkled for FEU with seven goals (16th, 25th, 32nd, 47th, 52nd, 78th and 79th). Rodolfo Lorenzo struck in the 19th and 68th minutes while Chester Kit Barrientos and Raymond Buenaluz contributed one each to complete the rout.

The FEU booters finished second in Group B with two wins, one draw and one loss for seven points, five behind unbeaten Army which tallied 12 points.

FEU nipped UAAP champion Ateneo, 2-1, last Dec. 8 after holding last year's titlist Navy to a 3-3 draw.

Semifinal action in the tournament organized by the National Capital Region Football Association and sponsored by Globe Handy Phone will be held on Dec. 20 with Group A topnotcher Kaya FC playing FEU and Army facing UST, Group A runner-up.

In division 2, only Knights FC has clinched a semifinal slot for winning its three Group C games.

The remaining matches which should decide the other semifinal seats pit Nomads against Laos Today, Nomads against Once Archers, Laos against Xavier-Loteo FC and Mapua-Lions against Manila-All Japan on Dec. 19.

Nomads, Laos, Once Archers and Xavier-Loteo are vying in Group A, while Mapua-Lions and Manila-All Japan are bracketed in Group B, together with Client.

3 Filipino pugs enter President's Cup finals

BATAM, Indonesia—The three-man RP Alaxan FR Boxing Team moved into the finals with a solid three-for-three effort in the 20th President's Cup International Boxing Championships here.

Pinweight Bill Vicera, light flyweight Godfrey Castro and flyweight Franklin Albia hammered out contrasting victories Wednesday night and assured RP of three silver medals in the 18-team, 15-nation annual world ranking tournament.

Castro, an Army enlisted man, got the RP juggernaut going with an easy 30-19 win over Toshiki Igarashi of Japan after which Vicera huffed and puffed before scoring a 22-16 decision over Sitham Vong Vathoum of Laos.

Not to be left out, Albia toyed with Liu Shih Tang of Taiwan to come up with a 22-3 rout and complete the Filipino sweep of their semifinals bout.

The Filipinos, sent here by the Pacific Heights with support from the Philippine Sports Commission as part of the Amateur Boxing Association (ABAP) build-up program for the 2005 Southeast Asian Games, were set to go for the golds Thursday night.

Albia was to fight A Rathnayake of Sri Lanka in the flyweight finals while Vicera and Castro were pitted against South Korean opponents.

"Nagpapasalamat kami sa Diyos at narating namin lahat ang finals," said coach Ronald Chavez.

"Kung hindi sa tulong Niya at sa Pacific Heights, hindi kami makakarating dito at makakamtan ang malaking karangalang ito."

Murrel, Pang survive PCA q'final rivals

JONATHAN Murrell and Michelle Pang survived their tough quarterfinal matches yesterday to remain on course for top honors in the Philippine Columbian Association (PCA) age-group tennis championships at the PCA indoor courts in Plaza Dilao, Paco.

Murrell, the top seed in the boys' 18 and under division, beat Johnwill Baldonado, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, while Pang, the second seed in the distaff side, overcame a sluggish start to beat Kristel Samala, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, in the event presented by Gov. Muslim "Wahab" Akbar of Basilan.

Raymond Villarin joined Murrell in the semifinals via a 6-2, 6-2 win over Russel Arcilla Jr.

Ma. Angelica Ngo won over Danielle Balbers, 6-4, 6-0, and Julie Ein Botor dumped Olivia Molhant, 6-1, 6-3, to advance in the girls' 18 and under group.

Christine Patrimonio, daughter of just-retired PBA star Alvin Patrimonio, also sustained her winning ways by beating Margaux Molhant, 6-1, 6-0.

Firefly T'bird rules NCA 1st leg

FIREFLY Thunderbird 13, an entry of sportsman Jon Santiago, noted Rizal breeder Boy Jiao and Boy Velez, racked up seven remarkable victories Thursday night to capture the first leg of National Cockers Association (NCA) 7-Cock Derby at the Araneta Coliseum. In a climactic title fight, Thunderbird Firefly 13 routed the equally tough Binangonan Ballena of former ambassador Danding Cojuangco and Rizal Gov. Ito Ynares. Ranged against the favored entry of Cojuangco and Ynares, a two-time winner, the Sweater Roundhead of Firefly Thunderbird 13 displayed impressive speed and cutting accuracy to win the fight. The entries of popular cocker Patrick Antonio and the Jimalar group also settled for runner-up honors with 6.5 points apiece. Meanwhile, the prestigious 2005 World Slasher Cup 8-Cock Derby slated Jan. 18, 20 and 22 gets a big boost with the arrival yesterday of renowned US breeder Ragoni Roberts of Georgia who will team up with Big Dome owner Jorge "Nene" Araneta. In a related development, Ray Alexander of Alabama sent word that he is sending super roosters for three avid cockfighters.

Cash Premyo on at Roligon

NO less than 60 fights await derby fans today at Roligon Mega Cockpit when the eighth edition of the Cash Premyo derby series gets under way at 4 p.m. Submission of weights is set from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. with the weight limit set at 1.800 to 2.400 kilograms. The guaranteed cash prize is P250,000 with the entry fee and minimum bet pegged at P5,500 and P3,3000, respectively. Hosted by Abraham Bernabe and Tiling Capitan, the derby stakes P20,000 for the champion handler with the top gaffer getting P10,000. The fastest-kill winner in his last fight pockets P20,000, while the second-place receives P10,000.

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Opinion

Everyone's battle

Editorial

TONY Man-wai Kwok, former deputy commissioner and head of operations of Hong Kong's Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), is trying to give Filipinos the benefit of his experience. He served for 30 years in customs control, drug enforcement, finance investigation, intelligence and prosecution for the Hong Kong government, and joined ICAC as an investigator when it was established in 1975. He rose to the post of deputy commissioner and head of operations in 1996 and led the agency through Hong Kong's reunification with China in 1997. His message to Filipinos attending a three-day seminar on fighting corruption was simple and direct: "We need tough political will in order to battle corruption. We cannot rely on a single agency, everybody needs to respond to fighting corruption."

Kwok said fighting corruption requires three things. First, political will from the top, not just from the executive but also the legislative and judicial branches of government. Second, the active participation and support of the private sector. Third, follow-through on everyone's part if momentum is to be created and maintained.

[illegible]

Exceptions to the Rules

Separate Opinion



Isagani A. Cruz

[illegible]

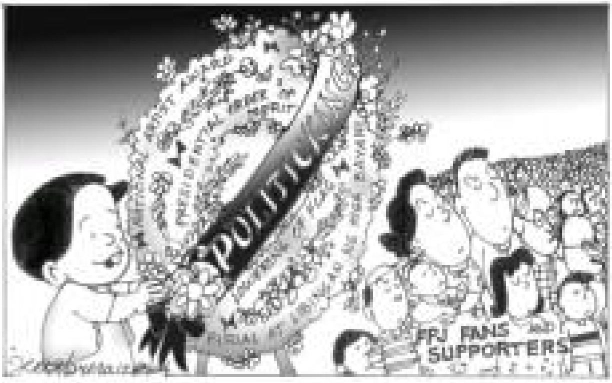
Selling the Brooklyn Bridge

Get Real



Solita Collas-Monsod

[illegible]



God's unfathomable will

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Belinda Olivarez-Cunanan

Story of grace

YOUNG BLOOD



Grace M. Flores

The 'new' Susan Roces

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Responses

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY



Indecent exposure on TV

LETTERS

PMA character

Pedestrian traps

Lights still off in Balonbato, QC

INQUIRER Visayas
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Editor: Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief: Edralyn L. Benedicto

Fashion accessories straight out of prison

By Jolene B. Bulambot
Cebu City

FOR SEVERAL years now, inmates at the Mandaue City Jail have proven to themselves that life does not end with detention.

Instead, many of the prisoners realized that there is still hope for change. Opportunities still blossom despite restrictions in their freedom and isolation from their loved ones.

As the country celebrates the season of giving, the inmates here are also occupied with their lucrative livelihood project.

Many of the jail's 495 inmates, including some females and minors, are engaged in making fashion accessories that have been exported to Western countries for the past three years.

The products they labor on include creative and colorful necklaces, bracelets, pendants, key chains, belts and decor catchers.

Chief Insp. Jose Moring, the jail warden, said the buyers that the skilled inmates involved in the project have already earned at least P288,000 in the past 10 months, or about P50,000 more than their total earnings last year.

Moring said 30 percent of the income is kept by the jail administration for jail operations, while the remaining 70 percent is divided among those involved in the project.

Moring said three export companies, all based in Mandaue City, had tapped the prisoners' skills and labor in exchange for reasonable pay.

These companies regularly supply the prisoners the materials needed to produce the accessories. Such materials include nylon thread, glass beads, wooden accessories, shells, scales, laminated glass, leather and coconut products.

When the jail administration started the fashion accessories project four years ago, they only started with 20 skilled workers. Today almost half of the number of inmates are engaged in the project.

Moring said there had been several livelihood projects initiated by his predecessors, but nothing succeeded until they engaged in fashion accessory making.

The project, he said, is in line with the mission of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology to promote rehabilitation programs for the inmates to make them productive and useful.

Dignity of labor

Joel Birao, 30, and detained for homicide, said they have to double their efforts now to cope with the number of orders.

Birao, a skilled fashion accessory maker before he was imprisoned, trained most of his fellow inmates.

He said their contracting companies supplied them with samples that served as model products.

Since December is a peak season, Birao said they work day and night to meet their delivery deadlines.

"We have so many orders now. In a day we even get five sacks of the supplies instead of the usual two sacks a day. Our work keeps us occupied and gives us a sense of worth. We are very grateful to the project because we are learning and earning at the same time," he said.

Birao said the cost of labor depends on the products they are working on.

The more elaborate the product, the higher the labor cost, he said.

On the average, he said, each of the inmate-workers gets paid at least P300 a week.

Birao also said that the inmates have been trained to ensure quality in their work. "If things were not done efficiently, the products would be returned for them to be redone," he said.

Geoffrey Dueñas, 37 and detained for drug charges, serves as the coordinator of the livelihood project among the adult male prisoners.

Dueñas said the skilled workers could accomplish an average of 120 pieces a day.

"Most of those who joined us were those who rarely get visitors. To ease the pain, they wanted to be occupied. Our work keeps us going. It trained us to become very productive, too," he said.

He said the inmates are organizing a big Christmas party for everyone in the jail because of the blessings they got this year. The inmates have already ordered 100 kilos of pork, using their earnings from the project.

Marites Sungahid, a 33-year-old mother of six, said she was grateful for the project because it helps her finance her children's needs.

Sungahid has been detained for 10 months for illegal possession of dangerous drugs.

She said she could string together about 100 pieces of jewelry a day and get paid P3 for each string.

"I need to work while I am here because my family needs me. I have six children at home and I have to help the family. I miss my children very much. When they come to visit me, I feel proud that I can give them money," she said.

Moring said the discipline and productivity shown by the inmates could serve as an inspiration to everyone.

He said that in Metro Cebu, it is only at the Mandaue City Jail that the livelihood project succeeded because of the enthusiasm and dedication of the prisoners to earn.

Aside from fashion accessories, the inmates occasionally receive orders for basket weaving and candle making.

A rattan export company in Mandaue City pays at least P200 for every bar stool, sofa or armchair and P40 for every basket made.

Last month, a Catholic lay group in Cebu, the Our Lady of Manaoag Cebu chapter, ordered 50,000 candles. Each candle cost P2.50.

"We are very happy with the outcome of the livelihood project. When the [inmates are released], they are already rehabilitated and they will always have a fallback," Moring said.



MANDAUE City jail warden Jose Moring (second from right), together with some prisoners, show the products the inmates have been producing, among them, fashion accessories as part of their livelihood project at the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology. —JOLENE BULAMBOT

Soldiers face raps for shabu

3 GenSan blast suspects found Sayyaf members





HOMETOWN FAREWELL

Bulacan, Pampanga farms to get water until April

Fund lack threatens anti-logging program

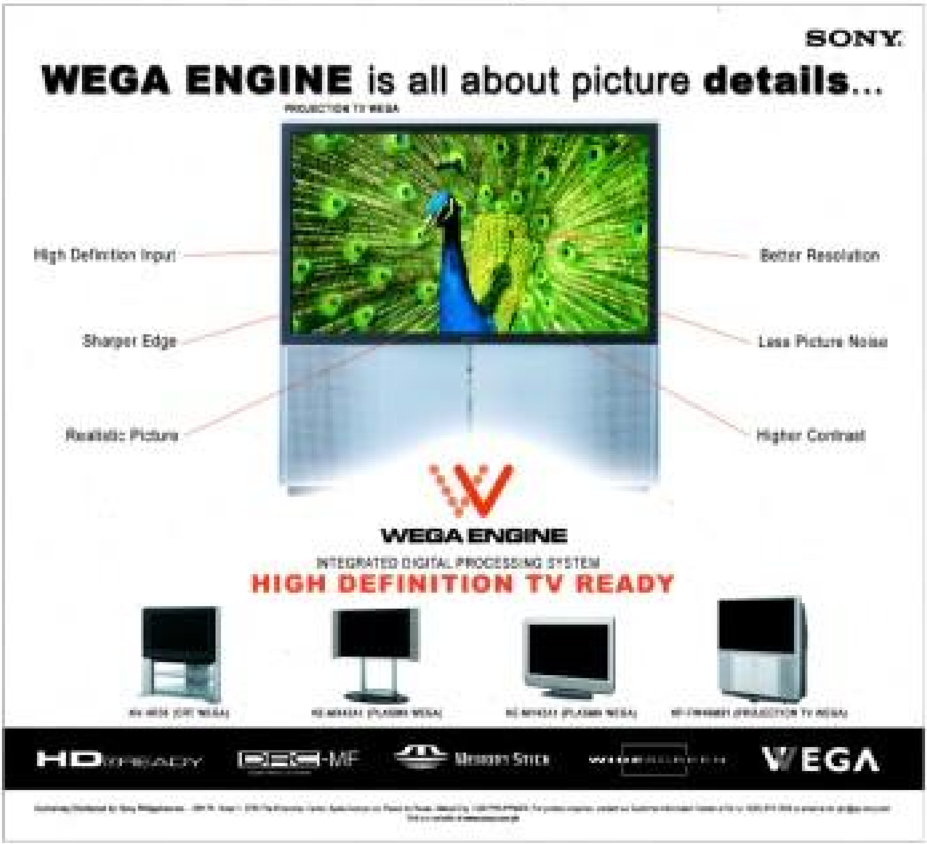
Dad seeks ban on rich kids in public schools

Detained general wants to be home for Christmas

3 options







Susan presses attack: Nobody will tell us to shut up

Out of her shell

'Valid' criticism

'Fed up'

Intractable

'Historical'

ABS-CBN survey says public agrees with Susan

'Defend Karen'

The interview

Susan's order of preference

Allies see FPJ death as catalyst for Erap comeback

Da King had 5 best traits …

Nurturing is No. 1

Mythical

'A heart person'

JDV loses 'light of my life'





PREVENTING FIRES

IN CASE OF FIRE

House impenetrable

Padlocked fire exit

Last moments

No right tools for grills

Smart girl

Cremation

GMA: A personal loss

KC on life: 'See what is good in everything'

'See good in everything'

Cart Queen

The children

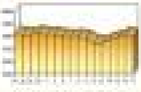
BUSINESS

Gov't agencies ordered to hike fees

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Mining firms set meet to woo investors



RP debt stock hit $55.6B in Sept.

Mining firms . . .

Seair to start $40-M expansion in 2005

Taiwan seen to invest $50M in RP



DIVESTMENT EFFORTS

Transco, 3 electric co-ops sign lease deals

Sale of Meridian to Smart gets NTC go-ahead

Aranetas to launch ₱5-B flagship project next year

Grains Highway plan backed

Super

urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation



Technosexual revolution

Through its Windows 'Experience More' event in Singapore, Microsoft let Super! cop a feel of the slickest hi-tech goodies way before they hit the streets



I MUST have died and gone straight to gadget heaven. And heaven, in this case, was the Microsoft Office in sun-soaked Singapore. With an insanely breath-taking view of both Marina Bay and the concrete sprawl of Singapore's Central Business District, the company's auditorium on the 21st floor served as ground zero for the Windows "Experience More" event held during the first week of December.

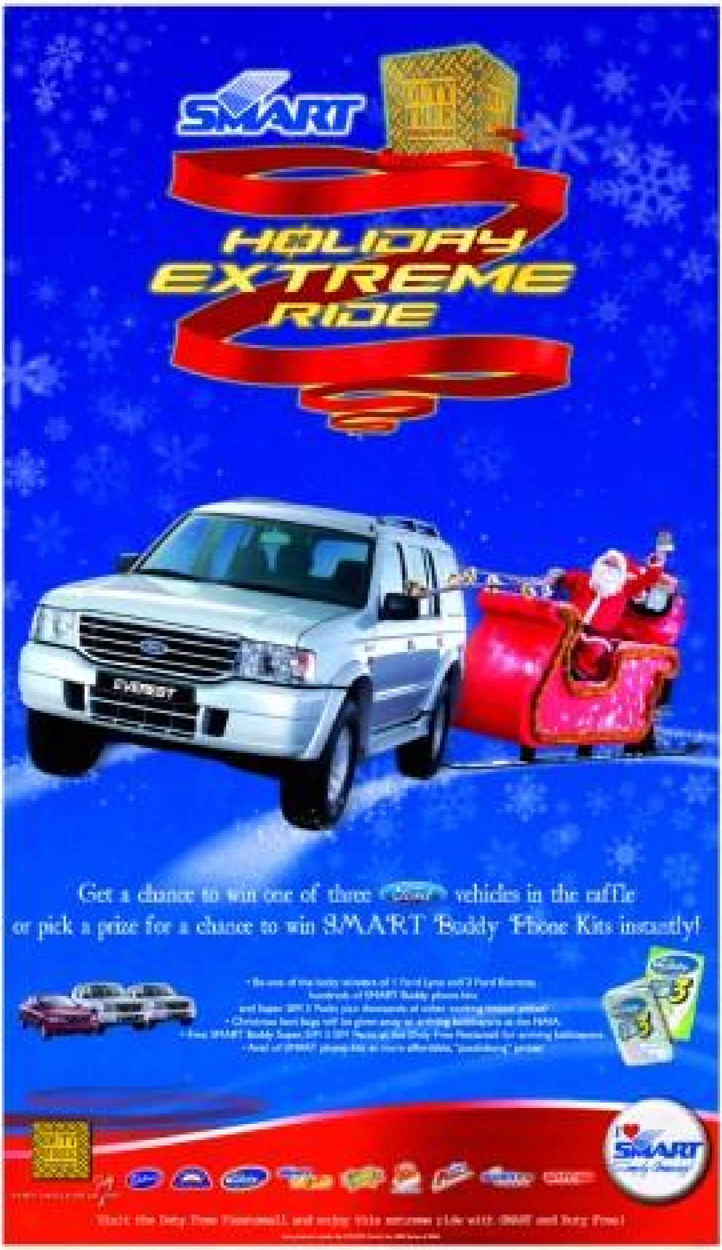
Age against the machine



Gino de la Paz

Step inside my office, baby

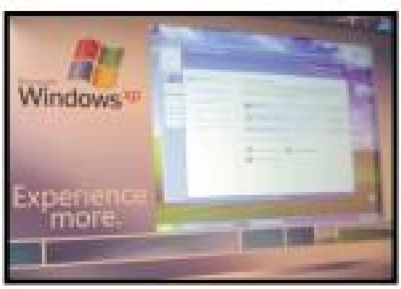
Tech talking





Technosexual revolution





Inspect your gadgets

Get your paws on these toys

What: Motorola MPx



What: iriver PMP-120 (20GB and 40GB)



What: Creative Nomad Jukebox Zen Xtra (20 GB and 30 GB version)



What: Creative Zen Micro



What: Toshiba Portégé M200 Tablet PC



What: Service Pack 2 for Windows XP

What: Photo Story 3



SUPER SURPRISE OF THE SEASON: opening a box full of creativity and new blood

Cult of personalities

At last Saturday's screening for new members of the Super! team, our forward-thinking readers blew us away with their creativity, sincerity and unmistakably well-rehearsed tributes to Destiny's Child

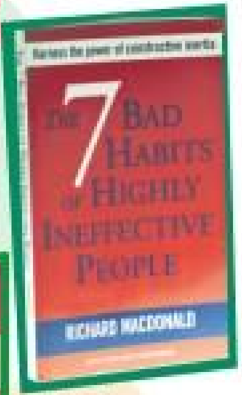
EXACTLY two weeks before Christmas, young people of supreme confidence filled the lobby of the Philippine Daily Inquirer building to show portfolios of their work and other glimpses of their talent. The reason behind this mini deluge? They were merely responding to an ad that announced informal auditions for would-be Super! writers, photographers, stylists and artists.

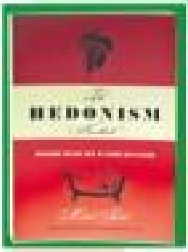
New blood

Season's readings

By [illegible]

W[illegible]





The Radical Bum

The 7 Bad Habits of Highly Ineffective People P[illegible]

[illegible]



The Thinking Pleasure-Seeker

The Hedonism Handbook P[illegible]

[illegible]

The Political Strategist Next Door

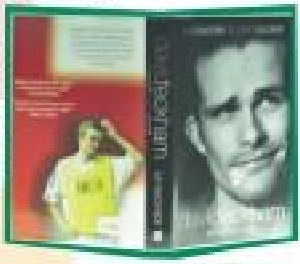
Us & Them: What the Americans Think of the British/What the British Think of the Americans P1,[illegible]

[illegible]

The Wannabe Jock

David Beckham: My Backside P[illegible]

[illegible]





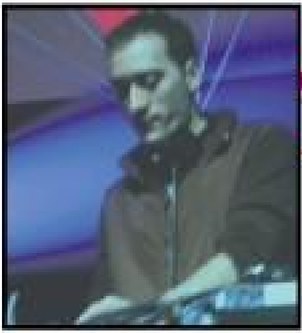
The Aspiring Baddie

How to Be a Villain [illegible]

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All available at [illegible]

Super
pop culture . entertainment . recreation



Meeting the man behind the music

By Jojo T. Manzo
Photos by Nick Cruz

FOR those who venerate electronic music (like I do), international DJ, producer, and composer Paul van Dyk needs no introduction. For legions of fans—including mammoth crowds that gather at BigBlish events at the NBC Tent or elsewhere—the man that brought the world "For An Angel" is revered as a god, a leader in a market that revolves heavily around him and his sets.

At the 47th Annual Grammy Awards (due to be held on Feb. 13 next year), Paul van Dyk's "Reflections" competes with albums by Basement Jaxx, The Crystal Method, Paul Oakenfold, and The Prodigy for the Best Electronic/Dance Album award. This marks a milestone in van Dyk's career, being one of the first five artists to be nominated in a field that is only being recognized by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences for the first time this year. This clearly establishes van Dyk as one of the perceived leaders of the genre.

Van Dyk's fourth album, "Reflections"—hailed by many critics as deeper and more insightful than his previous endeavors—features the electronic dance hit "Nothing but You," a huge hit in clubs around Europe, America, and Asia; "Time of Our Lives," the soundtrack for the current HBO/Cin-

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Confession of a PVD addict

By Juliet Tan



Paul Van Dyk visits Manila



'America's Favorite DJ'

Interview with a god

A Super! Christmas

Text by Pam Pastor; Artwork by Raymond Ortay

TO CALL these past days strange is an understatement.

We've faced the wrath of nature, we've said goodbye to special people, we've witnessed pain and anger at their truest forms.

Surviving this world is a challenge - and the struggle seems even tougher now, making it hard to believe that Christmas is just a week away.

Just like the rest of us, the celebrities you see on these pages have ridden the universe's giant roller coaster. There are just some things that no amount of fame or money can help us escape.

But the people around us can make the battle easier, if we can only learn to let them in a little more.

The Muppets said in their Christmas special, "Life is made up of meetings and partings."

But what really counts is what happens between those hellos and goodbyes.

So in the seven-day countdown before Christmas, shower your loved ones with as much affection as you can—hug them, kiss them, clip the GCs from our pages and give it to them, do a quick dance, watch a movie with them, create memories and erase bad ones.

Have a ball, have a blast, have a Super! Christmas.



THE SUPER! family in full color

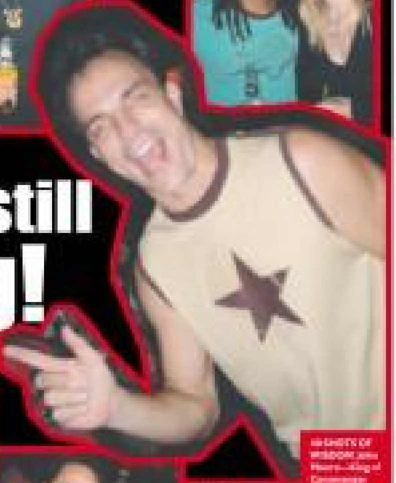
Confession of a PVD addict













40 and still standing!

Text and photos by Tim Yap

WHEN I grew up, I wanna be just like John Munro. For those not in the 'Bora' know, this guy is the king of Cocomangas—the place in Boracay where jam jars, man shots (come, shoot) and blue jugs rule.

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